
REMARKS

Claims 5, 6, 9, 10, 36, 38, and 49-55 are canceled; and as a result, claims 1-4, 45-48, and 57-59 are pending in the above-identified application.

§ 102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 5, 6, and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Liu (U.S. Patent No. 6,030,861). Applicant does not admit that Liu is prior art and reserves the right to "swear behind" Liu as provided for under 37 C.F.R. 1.131. Claims 5, 6, and 36 are canceled, so the rejections are moot.

§ 103 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 49 - 54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu (U.S. Patent No. 6,030,861) as applied to claims 5 and 6 above, and further in view of Gardner *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,051,471). Applicant does not admit that either Liu or Gardner *et al.* is prior art and reserves the right to "swear behind" Liu and Gardner *et al.* as provided for under 37 C.F.R. 1.131. Claims 49-54 are canceled, so the rejections are moot.

Claim 38 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu (U.S. Patent No. 6,030,861) in view of Gardner *et al.* Applicant does not admit that either Liu or Gardner *et al.* is prior art and reserves the right to "swear behind" Liu and Gardner *et al.* as provided for under 37 C.F.R. 1.131. Claim 38 is canceled, so the rejection is moot.

Claims 9, 10, and 55 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu (U.S. Patent No. 6,030,861). Applicant does not admit that Liu is prior art and reserves the right, as provided for under 37 C.F.R. 1.131, to "swear behind" Liu. Claims 9, 10, and 55 are canceled, so the rejections are moot.

Allowed Claims

Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 1-4, 45-48, and 57-59.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

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CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone applicant's attorney at 612-371-2109 to facilitate prosecution of the above-identified patent application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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April 28, 2004

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 28th day of April, 2004.

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